United Nations A/C.1/60/L.34

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
12 October 2005

Original: English

Sixtieth session
First Committee
Agenda item 97
General and complete disarmament

Netherlands: draft resolution

Addressing the humanitarian and development impact of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that, as stated in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation have a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and pose a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development,

Fully recognizing the significant progress that has been made in implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that the Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action[2] recognized that further action was required to fulfil the commitments undertaken in the Programme of Action,

Recognizing also that in 2005 world leaders jointly expressed grave concern at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons and that, in that regard, the 2006 review conference on the Programme of Action represents an important and concrete opportunity to address effectively, in particular, those interconnected security and development challenges that are relevant to the agenda of that conference,

Noting that the 2005 World Summit Outcome[3] includes:

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[1] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[2] A/CONF.192/BMS/2005/1, para. 17.

[3] Resolution 60/1.

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(a) A commitment to work towards a security consensus based on the recognition that many threats are interlinked and that development, peace, security and human rights are mutually reinforcing,

(b) A section on human security,

(c) A commitment to support the implementation of the Programme of Action,

1. *Calls upon* all States to take full account of the interconnections between development, peace, security and human rights, which are markedly relevant to the issue of small arms and light weapons;

2. *Suggests* that, when dealing with the issue of small arms and light weapons, States should explore ways to more effectively address their humanitarian and development impact, including:

(a) Developing, where appropriate, comprehensive armed violence prevention programmes, integrated into national poverty reduction strategies;

(b) Encouraging United Nations peace support operations to address the safe storage and disposal of small arms and light weapons as an integral part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

(c) Systematically including, in longer term peacebuilding strategies and programmes, measures to regulate small arms and light weapons, including weapons collection and destruction, stockpile management and security of small arms and light weapons and its ammunition, adequate national arms regulations and the prevention of illicit arms transfers, including to non-State end-users;

(d) Ensuring, where appropriate, that activities such as those mentioned in subparagraphs (b) and (c) above take full account of:

(i) The roles that women and women's organizations could play in small arms disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes; the requirement to address the needs of women and girl combatants and dependants in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes; and the commitment to elaborate and implement strategies to report on, prevent and punish gender-based violence;

(ii) The commitment to promote and protect the rights and welfare of children in armed conflicts;

(iii) The requirement for adequate care and assistance of victims of small arms violence, including support to ensure their social and economic reintegration;

(e) Recognizing that the promotion of respect for international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, could require enhanced capacity-building for armed forces, police and security forces and the judiciary;

(f) Developing small arms and light weapons and armed violence strategies within the context of multilateral frameworks that address security and justice sector governance, public health, women's issues, human rights and development assistance, especially those that engage International Financial Institutions, development agencies and non-governmental organizations;

3. *Encourages* States in the period leading up to, and at, the 2006 review conference on the Programme of Action to make every effort to:

(a) Develop resource mobilization strategies in order to support measures and action required to fully implement the Programme of Action;

(b) Develop systems to enhance reporting and monitoring of the implementation of the Programme of Action in a regular and systematic fashion.